



United States Department of Agriculture

# Natural Resources Conservation Service

## 2014 StrikeForce Accomplishments

### Financial and Technical Assistance:

- Provided financial and technical assistance on **245 contracts** totaling over **\$6 million** to help socially disadvantaged, limited resource and new and beginning farmers install conservation practices to improve productivity and profitability on their land.
- Worked with Roanoke Concrete Company on a half a million dollar riparian buffer and rotational grazing project to mitigate expansion of the plant and protect more than 400 jobs.
- Conducted joint 2014 Farm Bill workshop with FSA at VSU's annual field day and 5 Farm Bill meetings sponsored by Farm Bureau.

### Education and Outreach:

- Conducted 4 workshops on Virginia's Eastern Shore for 200 non-traditional livestock producers in partnership with FNS, VSU, ESRC&D, and ESSWCD, VSU.
- Reached an estimated 25,000 people at 8 statewide events including the Virginia Biological Farming Conference, Farm to Table Conference, White House Summit, 43,560 Field Day/USDA Farm Bill Forum, Virginia State Fair, VSU Small Farm Conference, Farm Bureau Annual Meeting and Southwest Ag Expo.
- Produced StrikeForce banner stand to promote USDA services at FY15 events /workshops.
- Assisted VA Dept. of Forestry on two Workshops to help landowners actively manage woodlands to reduce erosion, increase production and create more habitat for wildlife.

### Gleaning Projects to Help Feed the Hungry:

- Coordinated with VSU and Northern Neck farmer to conduct 2 gleaning projects which yielded 5,500 pounds of fresh produce for a local food pantry, Feedmore of Central Virginia and the Northern Neck Food Bank. 30 volunteers from VSU, NRCS, FSA and RD participated.

